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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: William W. King

Application Number: 10/607,900

Filing Date: June 27, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: Dan, Hoang C.

Title: **ITERATIVE DRILLING SIMULATION PROCESS FOR ENHANCED ECONOMIC DECISION MAKING**

> I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail #EV351286019US addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 16, 2004.
>
> _Amanda M. Guido_
>
> Amanda Guido

MAIL STOP - AMENDMENTS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated October 20, 2004. The Examiner required an election under 35 U.S.C. 121 between Claims 1-27, drawn to a method for enhanced decision making based on optimization of a drilling system using an economic factor, and Claims 28-30 drawn to an iterative drilling simulation method for enhanced economic decision making.

Applicant hereby elects with traverse to prosecute Claims 1-27. Claims 28-30 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application for these claims at a later date.
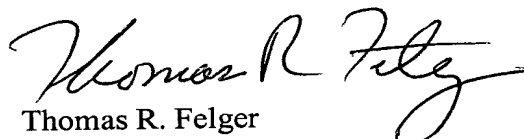
CONCLUSION

Applicant has now made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for examination and allowance.

No fee appears to be due for this election, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P. in order to effectuate this filing.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicant's attorney at 512.322.2599.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Thomas R. Felger
Reg. No. 28,842

CUSTOMER NUMBER: **31625**

512.322.2599

Date: _15 NOV 2004_